

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:WTCLUVERIUS:DF
APPROVED BY NEA - ALATHERTON, JR.
NEA/IAI - HHSTACKHOUSE
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S/S-O: K. KURZE

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P 040359Z JUL 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 145003

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS.PFOR, JO, IS
SUBJECT: BRIDGE PROBLEMS

REF: AMMAN 3860

1. DEPT AGREES WITH EMBASSY AMMAN THAT JORDANIAN REQUEST AND A POSITIVE ISRAELI RESPONSE TO THE BRIDGE CROSSING PROBLEM WOULD BE A USEFUL STEP IN PROMOTING GREATER TACIT ISRAELI-JORDANIAN COOPERATION. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY TEL AVIV SHOULD APPROACH GOI AT APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVEL AND PASS PRIME MINISTER RIFAI'S REQUEST, PER REFTEL; YOU SHOULD DESCRIBE PROBLEM PER PARAS 2 AND 3, NOTING THAT THIS IS GOJ DESCRIPTION OF SITUATION GIVEN US BY RIFAI AND STRESS POINT THAT RIFAI NOT ASKING FOR REDUCED ISRAELI SECURITY MEASURES BUT SIMPLY ISRAELI HELP, PERHAPS BY INCREASING NUMBERS OF TROOPS AND SECURITY FORCES AT BRIDGES, IN INCREASING FLOW OF PERSONS PRESENTLY DELAYED IN BRIDGE AREAS IN INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES. NOTE ALSO RIFAI'S ASSURANCES PARA 5 RE GOJ SECURITY EFFORTS.

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2. YOU SHOULD EXPRESS OUR BELIEF THAT JORDANIAN REQUESTS
OF THIS KIND ARE WORTHWHILE FIRST STEPS IN INCREASING
ISRAELI-JORDANIAN TRUST AND COOPERATION WHICH, AS IN CASE
OF RECENTLY REQUESTED WADI ARABA HYDROLOGICAL DATA, MORE

LIKELY TO BE FOLLOWED BY FURTHER STEPS IF HELD IN
ABSOLUTE SECRECY.

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